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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/078,007	02/20/2002	Nitzan Arazi	2098/12	6178

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EXAMINER

CONTEE, JOY KIMBERLY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2686

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/078,007	Applicant(s) ARAZI ET AL.	
	Examiner Joy K. Contee	Art Unit 2686	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Halonen, US 6,816,729.

Regarding claim 1, Halonen discloses in a wireless communication system comprising at least two Base Stations, at least one Switch in communication with the Base Stations, and at least one mobile unit, a method of handing off the mobile unit from a Base Station communicating with the mobile unit and a neighboring Base Station, comprising: smoothing a plurality of signals received from a handset by a plurality of Base Stations; comparing the signals with one another; and selecting a Base Station for handoff based on signal quality (col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 2, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein: the signals are compared by computing an average signal quality received from a given Base Station over a time interval encompassing subsequent signals from the given Base Station (col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 3, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, further comprising: comparing the signals only during times in which the signal was received by more than one Base Station (col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 4, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein the signal quality is based on a measurement selected from the group consisting of energy level, signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), packet loss ratio, and bit error rate (col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 5, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein: the Base Stations communicate with the mobile units in hops; the method further comprising: prior to comparing the signals, aligning in time the measurements of the same hops col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 6, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 5, wherein: the measurements are averaged over a number (X) of hops (col. 3, line 57- col. 4, line 56 and col. 5, line 28 – col. 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 7, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein the mobile unit is a device selected from the group consisting of: telephone handset, standard cordless telephone handset, cellular telephone handset, personal data device,

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personal digital assistant (PDA), computer, laptop computer, e-mail server, a device utilizing point-to-point protocol (PPP) to the Internet via a central remote access server, a headset, a personal server, a wearable computer, a wireless camera, and a mobile music player(col. 3,line 57- col. 4,line 56 and col. 5,line 28 – col. 5,line 2).

Regarding claim 8, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, further comprising: providing communication links between the Base Stations, wherein the communication links between the Base Stations are selected from the group consisting of RF links and land lines; and transferring connection status information and synchronization information between the Base Stations over the communications links (col. 3,line 57- col. 4,line 56 and col. 5,line 28 – col. 5,line 2).

Regarding claim 9, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein: the Base Stations and the Switch are connected via a wired or wireless local area network (LAN) (col. 3,line 2- col. 4,line 56 and col. 5,line 28 – col. 5,line 2).

Regarding claim 10, Halonen discloses a method, according to claim 1, wherein: the wireless communication system comprises a wireless private branch exchange (WPBX) handling calls from mobile units comprising handsets (col. 3,line 27 col. 4,line 56 and col. 5,line 28 – col. 5,line 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 11-18 are allowed.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joy K. Contee whose telephone number is 571.272.7906. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha Banks-Harold can be reached on 571.272.7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JC


JOY K. CONTEE
PATENT EXAMINER